Raising fund from Private Sector and Finance Industries for Power Reforms

137. SHRTMATI N. P. DURGA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry proposes to raise a fund of one billion dollars from private sector and financial institutions for power reforms:

(b) if so, the aim and purpose of this fund;

(c) whether Non-Resident Indians will be approached for making contribution to this fund; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) to (d) The World Bank and ADB have been providing financial assistance to some of the states to undertake power sector reforms!

The Power Finance Corporation (PFC) has also been providing financial assistance to the states for power sector reforms. The PFC has decided to explore the feasibility of raising equity in the market. The PFC has also prepared a Concept Paper on the possibility of creating an India Power Fund.

Inclusion of Kutch district under the APDP scheme

138. SHRI BACHANI LEKHRAJ : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Minister of Power while on a visit to the State of Gujarat has suggested that assistance be provided under the Accelerated Power Development Programme (APDP) and has assured that Kutch district would be covered under the special category scheme of 90 per cent grant and 10 per cent loan as against the normal pattern of assistance;

(b) if so, whether State Government requested the Ministry of Power in March, 2002 for inclusion of Kutch district under the Accelerated Power Development Programme (APDP);

(c) if so, the decision taken by Government; and

(d) if not, by when the final decision will be taken ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATIJAYAWANTIMEHTA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir. The Principal Secretary, Energy & Petrochemical Department of the Government of Gujarat, vide his letter dated February 5, 2001, had requested for restoration of the power supply in the earthquake effected areas in Kutch District and requested that funds for rebuilding the sub-transmission and distribution network in the Kutch District may be provided under Accelerated Power development Programme (APDP) under special dispensation.

(c) and (d) The Government of India has sanctioned an amount of Rs. 96.00 crores as financial assistance under APDP, for Bhuj in Kutch District, with 50% grant and 50% loan. The Accelerated Power Development Programme (APDP) now known as the Accelerated Power Development and Reform Programme (APDRP) was introduced in February 2000 with the focused objective of initiating a financial turnaround in the performance of the State owned power utilities. The scheme does not cover natural calamities. As of now, APDRP does not provide for areas affected by natural calamities under special category. This has wider ramifications and would require consultation/concurrence of the concerned Ministries/Department of the Government of India.

Local problems hindering power projects in NE

† 139. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that various power projects of the North-East have been held in abeyance due to local problems :

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government are considering to provide power generated by new projects for the use of local people; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

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† Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.